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HONDA IS APPOINTED DIPLOMATIC ADVISER TO FOREIGN MINISTRY

Shigemitsu Also Requests Yuki To Act in Advisory Capacity To Gaimusho

The appointment of Kumataro Honda, former Ambassador to China, as a Diplomatic Adviser to the Foreign Office was announced on Tuesday.

Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu since taking office had been consulting various elders of the diplomatic service, including his predecessors in order to assure the catholicity of his views on foreign relations. He had been especially availing of the experience and learning of Hachiro Arita and Dr. Tadao Yamakawa, Diplomatic Advisers, Ambassador Saburo Kurusu and other senior members of the diplomatic service who are in a position to advise him.

In addition, in view of the increasing importance of financial and economic matters in connection with foreign affairs, Mr. Shigemitsu has decided to enlist the service of Mr. Toyotaro Yuki, former Governor of the Bank of Japan and ex-Minister of Finance, as the supreme authority on such matters, requesting him to act in an advisory capacity for the Foreign Office. This step is considered in political circles to be an innovation.

In view of the thorough knowledge and experience of foreign affairs and finance on the part respectively of Mr. Honda and Mr. Yuki, Foreign Minister Shigemitsu is expected to have the best counsel possible in the country in regard to both.

Mr. Honda is one of the veteran diplomats of this country. As Ambassador to Germany Mr. Honda had displayed his excellent diplomatic ability. His most recent activity was connected with the foundation work laid for Japan's new China policy during his tenure of ambassadorial post in Nanking from December, 1940, to December, 1941. The resourceful diplomatic tact of Mr. Honda will contribute a great deal toward the furtherance of Sino-Japanese relations. He is 70 years old, but is hale and hearty.

During a long diplomatic career Mr. Honda has occupied many important posts, including those of counselor of the Embassy in Berlin, Minister to Austria, Minister to Sweden, Ambassador to Turkey, and Ambassador to Germany. He retired from the diplomatic service in 1926, but was offered the ambassadorial post to the National Government of Nanking in 1940.

The reputation of Mr. Yuki as the country's foremost financier is beyond dispute. He came into the limelight when he was made vice-president of the Yasuda Bank after resigning from the directorship of the Osaka branch of the Bank of Japan. Since then he has occupied a series of key financial positions in the Empire, including those of the president of the Industrial Bank of Japan, Finance Minister, and Governor of the Bank of Japan.

In 1937 Mr. Yuki was appointed a member of the House of Peers on Imperial nomination immediately upon his resignation from the Hayashi Cabinet.

DECLARED SEMI-OPEN PORT

Domei

HAICHOW, May 23.—The port of Lienyunkang was recently designated as a semi-open port by the authorities in view of its importance as the terminus of the Lung-Hai Railway and the vital part the port is playing in the transportation of war supplies to Japan.

All clearance business henceforth will be handled by the Japanese Consulate here.

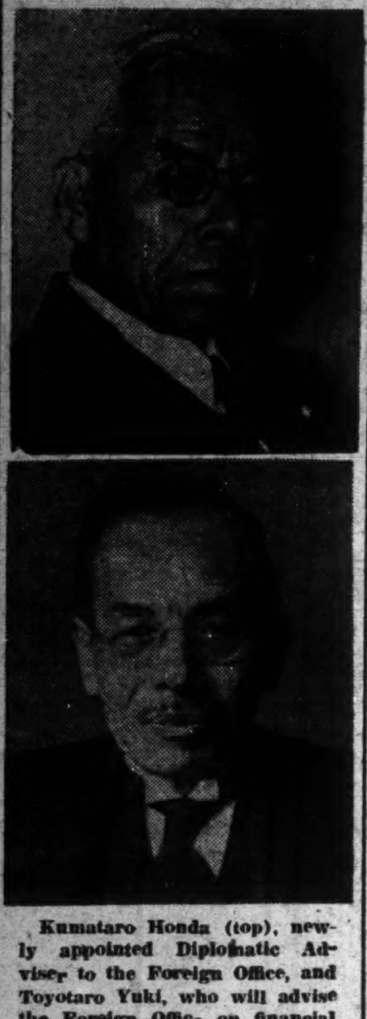
Lienyunkang is well known as one of the five main ports of North China.

Sweden Approves New Draft

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 22.—The Swedish Social Democratic Congress yesterday approved the new draft of the foreign and political policies of the Party's program as proposed by Swedish Premier Per Albin Hansson. It stands in favor of a positive defense policy and for maintenance of liberty as well as independence of the country. In the course of his speech before Congress, the Premier sharply condemned those critics who pleaded for disarmament.

Named Advisers



Kumataro Honda (top), newly appointed Diplomatic Adviser to the Foreign Office, and Toyotaro Yuki, who will advise the Foreign Office on financial questions.

WOHLTHAT PRAISES PROGRESS IN SOUTH

Inhabitants' Cooperation With Japan Impresses Reich Economic Mission Head

Dr Helmuth Wohlthat, head of the German Economic Mission, declared that the Japanese military administration was operating smoothly in all the Southern Regions, when interviewed on his arrival at Gannosu Airport, Fukuoka, on the afternoon of May 22. Dr. Wohlthat had just returned from an inspection trip of the Southern Regions.

He was accompanied by Will! Buchwald of the German Economic Ministry and Erh Yueh, Commercial Secretary of the Chinese Embassy in Japan.

Dr. Wohlthat stated that wherever he went in the Southern Regions, order had been completely restored and the native inhabitants were leading peaceful. orderly lives under the guidance of the Japanese Forces. He further said, "I was strongly impressed by the surging tide of cooperation shown by the native inhabitants of Malai and Java toward Japan. Japanese administration of the occupied areas in the south differs completely from the administrative policies adopted for German occupied territories, but the Japanese policy fits most appropriately for the regions concerned. In fact tangible results have already been obtained in the construction of the Southern Regions. Everything is running smoothly and the future is bright with hope."

PAPANDREOU TO QUIT POST

Special

LISBON, May 22.—George Papandreou, who was recently appointed the new Premier of the Greek emigrant Government, declared yesterday that he would offer his resignation to the King today, according to a Cairo report.

Papandreou did not state the reasons for his decision. This announcement was his first statement after his return from the negotiations with the Greek emigrant groups at Beirut.

Censorship Dispute Ends

Domei

LISBON, May 20.—The dispute between the Censor Bureau of the Australian Government and newspaper publishers over the question of censorship has been settled and Francis Forde, War Minister and Acting Prime Minister, and President Henderson of the Newspaper Publisher's League issued a joint statement, according to Sydney report. At the same time, new regulations respecting the censorship policy of the Government were issued, decreeing that no censorship is required when newspapers discuss economic and social problems.

41 BRITISH VANDALS DOWNED OVER REICH DURING NIGHT RAIDS

Enemy Indiscriminately Bombs Duisburg; 38 U.S. Raiders Are Also Destroyed

Special

BERLIN, May 22.—Forty-one British four-engined terror bombers were downed last night over the lower Rhenian territory by German night-fighters and flak despite very adverse weather conditions, according to the latest reports.

Latest Interinf reports said that German night-fighters in cooperation with the Luftwaffe flak artillery destroyed 41 British four-engined bombers which appeared over the lower Rhenian territory and indiscriminately dropped explosive and incendiary bombs on residential quarters in the Duisburg area and the surrounding country.

Overcast sky and rain prevailed and German fighters reported that they had great trouble in getting into fighting contact with the enemy bombers. They, furthermore, stated that several enemy aircraft were attacked but were able to fly back in a damaged state under cover of clouds so that nothing certain could be ascertained of their fate. Thus, it is anticipated that the British formations suffered additional losses.

Meanwhile, another 38 United States fighters were downed Sunday when approximately 120 enemy aircraft penetrated Reich territory, according to the latest Interinf report.

In this connection, it is learned from Major Albert Fretag, Interinf Luftwaffe correspondent, that the enemy single-engined fighter planes advanced across the River Elbe and latest reports disclosed that 38 of them were shot down for certain by light flak batteries. Additional American fighters were damaged and a part of them was ablaze when fleeing.

The American planes operated in small groups and particularly attacked from low altitude slow trains and civilians in the country and peasants working in the field.

It is expected that the Americans in yesterday's raid suffered additional losses as several of them on their way back flew at very low altitude over Dutch territory, tactics which have hitherto not yet been observed.

As previously reported, the American fighters also machine-gunned from low altitude a special train carrying children in Pomerania.

BODIES TO BE ESTABLISHED TO BOOST FOOD PRODUCTION

Will Promote Increased Output And Afford Proper Technical Guidance

With a view to increasing the production of various foodstuffs and also affording proper technical guidance to farming, the Agriculture and Commerce Ministry has decided to establish the Headquarters for Promoting the Increased Production of Wartime Foodstuffs in Tokyo and in various prefectures of the country. The matter was decided upon at Tuesday's Cabinet meeting with approval from Agriculture and Commerce Minister Shinya Uchida.

The headquarters will be supported by various agricultural associations, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, the Imperial Rule Political Assistance Association, the Ministries of Agriculture and Commerce, Finance, Home, Welfare, War, Navy, Munitions and others concerned as well as by influential civilian figures. The Agriculture and Commerce Minister will become the chief of the organization in Tokyo, while the similar post in the local organizations will be held by prefectural Governors.

The headquarters, upon their establishment at various places, will exert their efforts toward guidance in agricultural technique, the proper utilization of domestic cattle, and the systematic adjustment of agricultural labor—all with the purpose of increasing the production of various foodstuffs.

New Soviet Envoy to Iran

Special

LISBON, May 22.—Soviet Charge d'Affaires Maximov has been appointed Ambassador to Iran to succeed former Ambassador Michailov, who was suddenly recalled to Moscow, according to a Teheran dispatch.

Ferocity of Saipan's Resistance Amazes American Naval Forces

Japanese Planes Located U.S. Ships 18 Hours Before Actual Attack, Says New York Times Correspondent Who Accompanied Fleet

By Arrangement with the Asahi

LISBON, May 21.—The utter consternation caused to the American task forces when they attacked Saipan Island on February 22, this year, by the severe resistance of the Japanese troops and the heavy damages they inflicted upon the Americans is revealed by Robert Trumble, New York Times correspondent, who witnessed the battle from a warship of the American fleet. His article, in gist, follows:

"We believe that the attack on the Truk islands last week took the Japanese by surprise but the raid by deck planes on Saipan, Tinian and Guam Islands today (February 22) certainly did not. In this battle, lasting more than 24 hours, our fleet was exposed to the fierce counterattack of Japanese planes. At any rate we managed to carry out our intended bombardment. Luckily, the battleship on which I was aboard returned unscathed though some of our planes were damaged.

"I witnessed the scene from the bridge of a newly-constructed battleship. The incessant attack of Japanese torpedo-planes from last night to this morning was really terrible. We were only able to stand it because of the activity of our scouting planes and the observation corps on our ships, our anti-aircraft guns and the clever dodging maneuvers of our fleet which was spotted by the enemy 18 hours before the intended attack. Thus for a whole day and night we have been constantly attacked by the Japanese planes.

Plan Mariana Attack

"After the attack on the Truks, our fleet composed of aircraft carriers, battleships, cruisers and destroyers was reorganized with Rear-Admiral Mitchell as commander. A few days later it became known that this reorganization was for attacking the Mariana Islands. The plan of the attack was not revealed to the crews of the fleet but we guessed the day of the intended attack from the following instruction given by Rear-Admiral Mitchell:

"'The day is the birthday of George Washington. Let us cut down some of the Japanese cherry trees.'

"Smoothly the fleet steamed forward, following a zigzag course. At 5 p.m., February 22, we were found by Japanese scouting planes which forced us to give up our plan for a surprise attack. That evening, on board the battleship, Washington's birthday was celebrated and at 8 p.m. when the party was at its height, the first air raid alarm was sounded. The gaiety of the party at once disappeared. The entire crew at once took their action stations and we spent the whole moonless tropical night in a tense atmosphere. These hours after the party were to all of us particularly gloomy.

"On the bridge, only the orders of the Commander echoed clearly. During the night, the course and formation of the fleet were changed many times. Our companion ships were attacked by Japanese planes and for many hours anti-aircraft guns roared. Our battleship was first attacked at 11:35 p.m. by two Japanese planes. Then up to the next morning we were fiercely bombed by 19 enemy planes in all.

Fighter Takes Off

"Just about the time when the moon rose, the first Hell Cat fighter plane left its carrier to attack Saipan. It was soon followed by Curtis, Hell Diver, Douglas Dauntless bomber planes and Grumann Torpedo-plane units. From the first returning plane we received a report saying that there were many enemy planes. Two or three minutes later a pilot asked for permission to attack a Japanese ship in the harbor.

"Our battleship, in the meanwhile, was often attacked by Japanese planes. At 9:30 a.m. one of them came quite close to the stern of our ship and only by the defense put up by our fighter planes, did we manage to escape from danger.

"I heard two pilots speaking by radio. One said: 'Two Japanese planes are chasing us.' Then the other replied, 'Last time you told me a lie and said that two planes were coming when there was only one, so I won't believe you.' But as actually two planes approached he became alarmed, and said to the other; 'You take care of one of them.'

"Two raids were made on Saipan, two on Tinian and one on Guam. In the raid on Guam, 12 planes took part. By the afternoon, the operation was closed and the damages to our planes were announced as four heavy bombers and two fighter planes.

"The captain of our battleship sat down in his chair on the bridge, all fagged out and patted his dog. Then he smiled—the first smile in 24 hours. What we found by this raid was that Japan had greatly strengthened the defenses of Saipan. Our navy authorities probably regard Saipan as the most important of the Japanese bases in the Central Pacific. Though its port facilities are not good, it is possibly a more important base than Truk Island."

INVASION OPTIMISM IS BLASTED BY KING

U.S. Fleet Chief Warns End Of War Not Near When Attempt Undertaken

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 22.—Admiral Ernest Joseph King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet, and Chief of Naval Operations, warned Americans that they must not underrate the task they are facing in regard to the invasion attempt, according to a British report from Washington.

Addressing the veterans of the First World War, King warned that "Americans who believe that the end of the war is imminent as the attempt of invasion will be coupled with extensive operations in the Pacific have the wrong idea. We are still far away from Japan."

Arnold Sees Difficulties

Special

LISBON, May 22.—"It would be difficult to enforce a decision of the war by the invasion," declared General Henry H. Arnold, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Air Force, in the course of his speech in Chicago, according to a report from the city.

He left his audience in no doubt that the anti-Axis invasion troops must reckon with determined resistance from the air. Arnold was convinced that the German air force has a reserve of fighters for events which presumably would develop during the invasion operations on the continent.

Meanwhile, still maintaining the anti-Axis propaganda regarding the much and long vaunted Second Front, President Roosevelt in his 15th Lend-Lease report submitted to Congress today declared, "The United Nations' forces are now about to strike new and mightier blows against German-occupied Europe from offensive bases in the west, south and east," according to a Washington dispatch.

Roosevelt refrained from giving any idea when the invasion would be launched.

He reported that in the first three months of this year, the United States had sent a record-breaking total of more than $4,000,000,000 worth of Lend-Lease aid to Britain, the Soviet Union and Chungking.

Admitting that the total tonnage that can be carried by air transport anywhere was small compared to the quantities that can be shipped by land or sea, Roosevelt declared that Chungking is "being helped to the utmost of our ability."

An Ottawa dispatch, meanwhile, quoted Canadian Prime Minister William Mackenzie King who returned from the British Empire Conference in London as stating in a press interview today that he had gained the impression that the war would last longer than the general public believes.

Bricker Criticizes Spending

Special

LISBON, May 22.—The Republican National Convention is still "wide open," according to Governor John W. Bricker of Ohio, says a Washington dispatch. Bricker who is now in Houston, Texas, to make a bid for Texas' 40 convention votes, is reported by the United Press as holding a press conference in which he concentrated his criticisms on "overstaffed bureaus" and "the absurd idea that the United States can buy the goodwill of the peoples of the world by spending the taxpayer's money around the world."

JAPANESE WIPE OUT CHUNGKING FORCES IN NU RIVER SECTOR

Yunnan Troops Are Annihilated At Every Point Contrary to Enemy Propaganda

By T. SUZUKI
Of the Military Press Corps

BURMA FRONT, May 22.—Contrary to the Chungking regime's propaganda about the advance of the Yunnan expeditionary forces in the area on the west bank of the Nu River, which was spread to cover the defeat of these troops, the Chungking forces in this sector have been wiped out at every point in the intercepting operations launched by the Japanese.

Powerful Japanese Units firmly held the firing line extending from Maanshan to Liuku, while the XX Unit secured the positions running from Paomashan to Hungmushu.

Meanwhile, supported by artillery and air forces, various other Japanese Units attacked the enemy troops, which have been persistently counter-attacking, with the aim to annihilate all the Chiang forces in the area on the west bank of the Nu River.

Since the latter part of last month up to May 18, the enemy in this area has suffered 744 casualties which have been confirmed by the Japanese.

In Pitiable State

By K. YOSHIMOTO, K. KOYAMA, and T. FUJITA
Of the Military Press Corps

AT X X ON HONAN FRONT, May 22.—The pitiable inner conditions of the Chungking air force and ever-increasing conflict between American officers and Chungking army leaders have been brought to light by Air Lieutenant Pai, aged 26, of the Chungking air force. Air Lieutenant Pai was captured by the Japanese on the afternoon of May 12 when the latter shot down one of six Curtiss P-40's at a certain place, and died several days later from severe wounds, after receiving cordial care and treatment from the Imperial Army. What he told the Japanese runs as follows:

"Shortly after the commencement of the new Japanese campaign in Honan Province, the precarious state of Loyang was reported and we were ordered to move out immediately to the front. On May 10, I advanced to Ankang, 180 kilometers to the south of Sian, and on May 12 my plane was shot down by Japanese fighters who are marvellously brave.

"Chungking has about 200 airmen but only 80 of them can pilot. American airmen in China are always at loggerheads with Chungking air officers. American officers always despise us and so we also resist against them in order to save our face, thus causing constant frictions between the two.

"Chungking air soldiers are being trained in Karachi at the tenth air corps of the American air force in India. Every battalion dispatches one or two companies to Karachi."

Hopeless Future Seen

By M. ISHIWARI
Of the Military Press Corps

AT XX ON HONAN FRONT, May 22.—In a letter counseling his younger brother Ho Hsin never to become a soldier, Major-General Ho Chu, a drafting officer in the Chungking First War Zone, reveals how war-weary and how utterly hopeless the future seems to the officers of the Chungking Army. The letter found near XX says:

"I am now in Loyang assigned to the duty of drafting able-bodied men. Two years ago the men willingly answered the calls for enlistment, but today none come except under forced orders. After seven years of war, the gloomy prospects for the future take on deeper hues each day.

"Ho Hsin, two years ago I told you to become a soldier. But I take back my words. Why? To become a soldier is to lead yourself into a life of unhappiness and misery. As soon as my commission has been completed, I shall leave the army and become a merchant again. Whatever happens, Ho Hsin, never become a soldier."

Swedish Firms Black Listed

Special

LISBON, May 22.—Further pressure was forced upon neutral Sweden when the U.S. State Department today announced that 38 additional Swedish firms will be added to the black list to be issued on June 2, according to a Washington dispatch, adding that these firms had been engaging in trade with enemy countries.

Berle Fears Attack On U.S. Will Be Made In Next Global War

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 21.—A warning was issued by Adolf Berle, U.S. Undersecretary of State, in a speech yesterday in Cleveland, Ohio, that the next war if it comes will probably commence with an "attack on the United States," according to a British news agency report from Cleveland. He said that "no longer can Americans content themselves with the belief that the war overseas cannot reach them because two oceans lie between them, and the area of active danger."

ATTACK ON IMPHAL PUSHED FIERCELY

Grim Battles Rage as Our Units Reduce Foe's Positions Around Doomed Fortress

By T. OKUBO
Of the Military Press Corps

INDIAN FRONT, May 20.—True comradeship prevails among the troops who are fighting on the Imphal front for the liberation of India.

Proving the truth of the Corps Commander's words, "One enemy position a day," is the fact that the capture of one position has to be followed up with the occupation of the next which lies beyond because there is a veritable spider-web of defense around Imphal. The British soldiers are now said to be in action on the very front lines. In the 32 days spent on the foremost lines, the writer had the opportunity of seeing the Indian National Army going into action on the first day against the British troops.

The first day: The ammunition truck stopped abruptly. We had reached the ammunition depot of XX Corps, a little off the main road in a small village where a few Indian inhabitants remained.

"The headquarters of the Corps is XX meters from here." Even as one of the soldiers shouted these words, he rushed off with an ammunition box on his shoulders. The white night mark on his helmet was distinctly visible in the darkness.

We found the entire corps living in trenches. As far as we could make out in the darkness, rice paddies and fields seem to lie on all sides.

Several wounded men were lying near by, waiting to be taken to the rear. We could hear their moans. The ruddy countenanced section commander spoke a few words of encouragement to the wounded, and then disappeared into the darkness beyond.

Suddenly the terrific roar of a gun spilt the air. A shell roared overhead. The enemy guns had opened fire. Soon our powerful guns were responding to the enemy fire.

Orders came through, that at XX hour early in the morning, the unit was to charge and seize the protruding position on the enemy's left flank. The waning moon would be out in about two hours. We crouched low in our trenches so that no shadows would betray us.

Our foremost line was only X hundred meters from the enemy position, but so fierce was the fighting that a day's time had been allowed for the capture of the enemy position. Once seized, our forces would never yield the position to the enemy. The advance units had already begun to creep forward.

The second day: The enemy's position was occupied at daybreak. It had started to rain. The enemy's front line had become our foremost position.

A young Burmese interpreter, Maung Tong, Sub-Officer Delman of the Indian National Army, Lance-Corporal H and I found ourselves in the same foxhole. Maung Tong was suffering from malaria. He was staring at the sky.

"Here, put this on. There's no lice on my underclothes." Lance-Corporal H held out his spare undershirt to the Burmese. This was about the only piece of clothing in the foxhole that had not been soaked with rain. The four of us looked at each other and smiled.

The roar of the guns still continued. Enemy planes frequently zoomed overhead. It appeared that enemy's artillery position had been shifted further behind the lines. Reports were relayed to us that XX Corps Commander had been killed, that fierce fighting had been put up by the engineering unit of the Azad Hind Fauj, and that enemy tanks had been blasted.

I was given a revolver left by the foe. It was not for use against the enemy but to shoot myself in case such need should arise. Sub-Officer Delman crawled out of the hole. Then Lance-Corporal H repeated to us the report he had heard of the death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga. He thoughtfully added that his elder brother was in the Navy.

It stopped raining in the afternoon. From the dugout, we could see a herd of cattle grazing in the distance. Sub-Officer Delman came back to the foxhole. Tonight we would probably pierce the enemy's first defense of sepoys and then push on to the position beyond. With nightfall we would charge into the enemy's position. We took turns puffing at one cigarette.

The third day: The heat was oppressive in the foxholes, but in every trench the men had fallen into a deep slumber. They were making up for the sleepless night spent in vigilant watches against surprise night raids. The tops of steel helmets bobbed along the connecting trenches between the companies. The helmets belonged to the men on sentry duty. Some scouts were skirting the low bushes as they cautiously made their way to the forelines.

The roar of plane engines struck our ears. Two four-engined Consolidateds appeared. They seemed to be aiming for the main road. Bombs dropped at about 30 meters apart left big gapping craters in the roadway; some were nearly 10 meters in diameter. The men, rudely roused from their sleep, calmly remarked "What a noise!" Then the men started to hull the rice they had found in the villages. An hour's pounding in their steel helmets would produce a day's ration of polished rice.

The company commander, accompanied by the section commander, came to inspect the foxholes. It was not inspection in a strict sense, they wanted to see the cheerful faces of their subordinates. "Come on, give us a smoke." They took a puff from a cigarette made of tea leaves rolled in a dispatch paper. Tonight might be the last night, but the men were happy to be together.

ANNIHILATION FACES FOE'S 20TH DIVISION IN SECTOR OF PALEL

Reinforcement by 32nd Brigade From Wanjin Proves Futile; Casualties Reach 8,000

By S. NAKAJIMA
Of the Military Press Corps

INDIAN FRONT, May 22.—Due to the vigorous attacks carried out daily by the Japanese-Indian Combined Forces, the main body of the British 20th Division, which has been pressed into the areas around Palel, is now facing annihilation, although it has been trying to offer frantic resistance after being reinforced by the 32nd Brigade sent from the Wanjin sector.

Troops of one brigade belonging to the 20th Division were routed in the area near Tamumoley after suffering a fatal blow in the pincer operation launched by the Japanese from the south and north.

Moreover, the main body of the remaining enemy forces, two brigades strong, suffered tremendous damage at Shibong, Chiyamolu, Tegnopal and the area around Palel as the result of our vigorous attacks. The number of killed and wounded of the 20th Division appears to have reached at least 8,000.

Since the commencement of the operations against the enemy at Shibong, the war trophies captured by our forces in the Tegnopal and Palel areas, excluding the Moley-Tammu district reached an enormous amount. Details follow:

Rifle ammunition, 793,000 rounds; automatic rifle ammunition, 250,000 rounds; ammunition for small-caliber guns, 24,000 rounds; shells for guns, 15,000; shells for 15 m.m. howitzers, 400, and 18,000 shovels and picks, 7,000 gas masks, 350 big tents, 170 boxes of dynamite, 3,300 meters of iron wire, 7,000 mattresses, 22,000 cans of lubricating oil, [illegible] types, 120,000 sand bags, 23,000 oil drums as well as other war materials.

Admits Japanese Attacks

Domei

LISBON, May 22.—Japanese Forces in three waves attacked the anti-Axis position on the Palel-Tammu Road, headquarters of anti-Axis Forces in Southeast Asia admitted today in its war communique, according to a Kandy dispatch.

The same communique also revealed that the anti-Axis troops engaged the Japanese Forces that had planned to encircle Bishenpur from the north and west.

Press Comments

Tuesday, May 23

THOROUGHLY WILL WE SHATTER THE ENEMY

ASAHI—Ever since late last month when American task forces appeared off Hollandia in New Guinea and off the Truk Islands in the South Seas area and were repulsed with heavy losses by our crack units the enemy for some time had refrained from operations with task forces and confined himself to air attacks. But early this month, Admiral Ernest King, Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet, and Admiral William F. Halsey, former Commander of the United States Fleet in the South Pacific, were reported to have met at San Francisco for a conference. Also in view of the intensified air attacks in the Central Pacific area, it had been anticipated that the enemy, in his frenzied anxiety to end the war in short order, would make some move before long.

As the Imperial Headquarters has just announced, the enemy has again begun operating with a task force, appearing in waters east of the Ogasawara Islands and attacking Minamitorishima. The Japanese Units stationed there gave battle at once and in stirring action shot down 32 or more and the enemy fled in disorder.

Some 21 months have gone by since the enemy began his counter-offensive on Guadalcanal in August 1942, during which the Japanese consolidated the defense of the far-flung advance bases and strengthened their fighting power. They also carried on attrition warfare by which they decimated the enemy strength piecemeal. Thus the enemy has had to change his strategy more than once. In nearly two years of costly warfare, all that the enemy has accomplished is to secure a few points on the outer fringe of our Pacific circle of defense. Crack units of our Army and Navy are still stoutly holding their positions in New Guinea, the Solomons and the South Seas area. The enemy has been unable to make any headway in his advance upon the Chinese seaboard or upon the Philippines in spite of Nimitz's boasts. It is only natural that the United States should have begun to manifest frenzied impatience.

The nearer the enemy approaches our inner circle of defense, the longer will his commissary line extend so that his strength will wear out the more quickly and to a greater extent. This will certainly be to our advantage.

But our armed forces, as indicated in Chief of Army General Staff General Tojo's instructions to students of the Army Staff College, are accumulating their strength with patience in order to seize a favorable opportunity at which to strike in overwhelming force, and are waiting for a chance to thoroughly shatter the will of the enemy to continue the war. It is to this end that we have been so furiously rushing the increase in our fighting strength. The fiery spirit of General Tojo is the indomitable will of the people.

To be sure, the enemy counter-offensive is not to be despised. The task force which attacked Minamitorishima has fled but the enemy is intending to head for the Philippines or the Chinese seaboard. It is certain that he will persist in his attempts. We must also be on the alert against attacks via the Aleutians and the Indian Ocean.

Nevertheless, the time for a turn in the war is near with our fighting strength raised to a point sufficient for all emergencies and the fighting spirit of the people higher than ever. The destruction of the arrogant Americans is now in sight.

SOUTH-ITALIAN FRONT REQUIRES WATCHING

ASAHI—The Anglo-American forces on the South Italian front have been making furious assaults on the Cassino line since May 11. However, despite their frantic efforts and their use of mechanized units and impetuous operations regardless of damage, they have obtained but extremely meager results.

Field-Marshal Jan C. Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa, who is addicted to much empty talk, in a speech at Birmingham on May 19 spoke as if the Italian front were the much-vaunted Second Front and that an offensive from the Atlantic upon Western Europe were to be a Third Front, attaching as much importance to the Italian front as to the projected offensive on Western Europe. Our convictions are not to be shaken by Smuts or any other enemy trumpeter, but information from Berlin and Rome to Swiss papers indicates that German military quarters do not regard the enemy offensive on the Italian front as a mere attempt at restraint but as a large-scale break-through campaign projected against an even larger background. At any rate, the present enemy offensive on the Italian front is reminiscent of the first grand offensive of the Germans on the North French front with a force of 700,000 late in March, 1918 during the last World War. However, the results that the enemy has managed to secure in more than a fortnight of fighting are not to be compared even with those obtained by the Germans at that time in two or three days. The enemy is not yet really prepared to effect any such great break-through or to cut the Axis communications. He is still far even from Rome.

The Germans have been fighting with admirable skill and valor. Their fortifications have enjoyed the advantages of depth and their High Command has much strength in reserve. They are capable of developing large-scale offensives if they so desire. We are full of praise for their fighting spirit and are confident that our allies will achieve a glowing success in their resistance.

A THIRD FRONT

TOKYO SHIMBUN—While even the long boasted Second Front is still in the offing, Britain is already advertising a Third Front through much talk on the part of General Jan C. Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa. Perhaps the final frontal attack is meant to be the Third Front. But if an attack on the Mediterranean area is contemplated, it will be another proof of Britain's craftiness.

British influence is hourly waning in the Mediterranean area, and in the same degree the Soviet Union is gaining a firm foothold, its influence extending over Jugoslavia, Southern Italy, Cairo, Algiers and even to Palestine. This new development is one of Britain's major headaches at present.

When Marshal Joseph "Tito" Brozovich made his appearance in Jugoslavia, the Soviets instantly drove out General Draja Mihailovich, Jugoslavia's War Minister, because of his support by Britain. As the "Tito" regime came to be fully recognized by the Soviet Union, even the life of refugee King Peter II was endangered. Now it seems that General Tito's representatives are even negotiating with Premier Stalin.

The French Committee for National Liberation at Algiers has changed its name to "The Provisionary Government of the French Republic," but the Communist influence is easily discernible. The nature of the Badoglio regime too has changed since its recognition by the Soviet Union and King Victor Emmanuel III has been asked to abdicate.

Such developments could not long be ignored by Britain and it has been expected that some reciprocal action would be taken. Perhaps this talk of a Third Front means that Britain is planning an offensive in Soviet-influenced territory and make of it the main front for its drive against the Germans.

PROGRESS IN CHINA MAKING RAPID PACE

Domei

HSINKING, May 22.—Reconstruction in China is going on at a fast pace under the able direction of President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China, declared Chen Chi-cheng, Chinese Ambassador to Manchoukuo, upon his return here from Nanking yesterday.

Ambassador Chen went to Nanking two months ago to attend ceremonies held on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the return of the National Government to Nanking and also to report to the home Government.

He said, "The Chinese people having fully realized the urgency of creating a strong China so as to bring the War of Greater East Asia to a successful conclusion are striving heroically to promote the Youth Training Movement, to stamp out opium smoking introduced into China by the common enemies, Anglo-Saxons, and rid the country of corrupt officials as well as eliminating profiteering."

Ambassador Chen revealed that the Chinese Government is concentrating great efforts on effecting fulfillment of the part of the Chinese to play in this crusade of emancipating East Asia and added that the people of China are exerting the fullest cooperation to enable the Government to attain its ideal.

The Chinese Ambassador declared that during the two months' stay in China, he lectured in various localities explaining to the Chinese people the wonderful progress achieved by Manchoukuo and the conditions in Hsinking.

45 Strikes Hit Canada

Special

LISBON, May 22.—Forty-five strikes involving 18,000 workmen in all industries had taken place in Canada during the first three months of this year, it was revealed in the statistics on losses caused by strikes issued by the Canadian Labor Ministry, according to an Ottawa dispatch.

56 ANTI-AXIS TANKS SMASHED IN ITALY

Germans Firmly Hold Pontecorvo; British Troops Evacuate, U.P. Reports

Special

BERLIN, May 22.—Pontecorvo was again the focal point of yesterday's large-scale fighting on the southern Italian front, against which the Anglo-Americans, with their satellite troops, launched concentric attacks all day long with the support of strong artillery and hundreds of medium-sized bombers, according to an Interinf report.

Despite the fact that the attacks were made by numerically superior anti-Axis forces, the German garrison of Pontecorvo held its position and inflicted uncommonly high casualties upon the enemy. Some major invader detachments, which had entered the town, were annihilated.

During this battle, 43 enemy tanks were destroyed by direct hits and another 13 tanks were put out of action by the Germans, Karl Praegner, special Interinf correspondent, reports.

It is also reported that extremely severe fighting is going on in the sector extending from the small plain of Fondi to Montecairo through the Liri valley in the direction of Rome.

Both sides are making strenuous efforts, and the Anglo-Americans again have thrown into the battle fresh forces, but during the past 24 hours they have not succeeded in gaining any further territory.

Meanwhile, at the northern wing of the fighting front, which has a length of 40 kilometers, in the sector of Pontecorvo through Acquino to Piedimonto, burnt out British tanks and corpses of dead Poles, New Zealanders and Gurkhas are piling up before the German lines.

Meanwhile, a New York dispatch disclosed that reports from the Italian front do not disguise the particularly severe losses which the Anglo-Americans are suffering. It referred to reports that in the course of attacks, the anti-Axis forces experienced at several points a number of serious setbacks. This was especially so, according to U.P. reports from the front, between Acquino and Pontecorvo. Here troops of Lieutenant-General Leese, Commander of the 8th British army, had to evacuate under pressure of the German defense.

Foe's Supply Columns Hit

Special

BERLIN, May 22.—Heavy German bomber formations early this morning attacked enemy supply columns in the Fondi area in Italy, it is reported by Major Albert Freytag, Interinf Luftwaffe correspondent.

The enemy supply columns were well illuminated by the flares which were dropped before the heavy bombers operating in several waves launched their attacks. Fires and explosions occurred among the motorcar columns as well as troop deployments.

All German machines returned safely to their bases.

Italians Are Confident

Special

LISBON, May 22.—Public opinion in Rome is generally full of confidence, although available reports from the front reveal that the enemy is continuing attacks with masses of troops, according to a Rome dispatch.

The Messaggero as well as the Popolo di Roma, are absolutely convinced that in view of the serious bloody sacrifices of recent days, the anti-Axis troops will not be able to maintain their present pace of attack for a considerable length of time.

The reporter of the Messaggero stressed the continual stiffening of the German defense, and the necessity for the Anglo-Americans to have rest before resuming attacks.

HARRIMAN MAY SUCCEED WINANT IN LONDON POST

Sumner Welles Likely to Be Envoy to Moscow; 3-Power Conference Slated

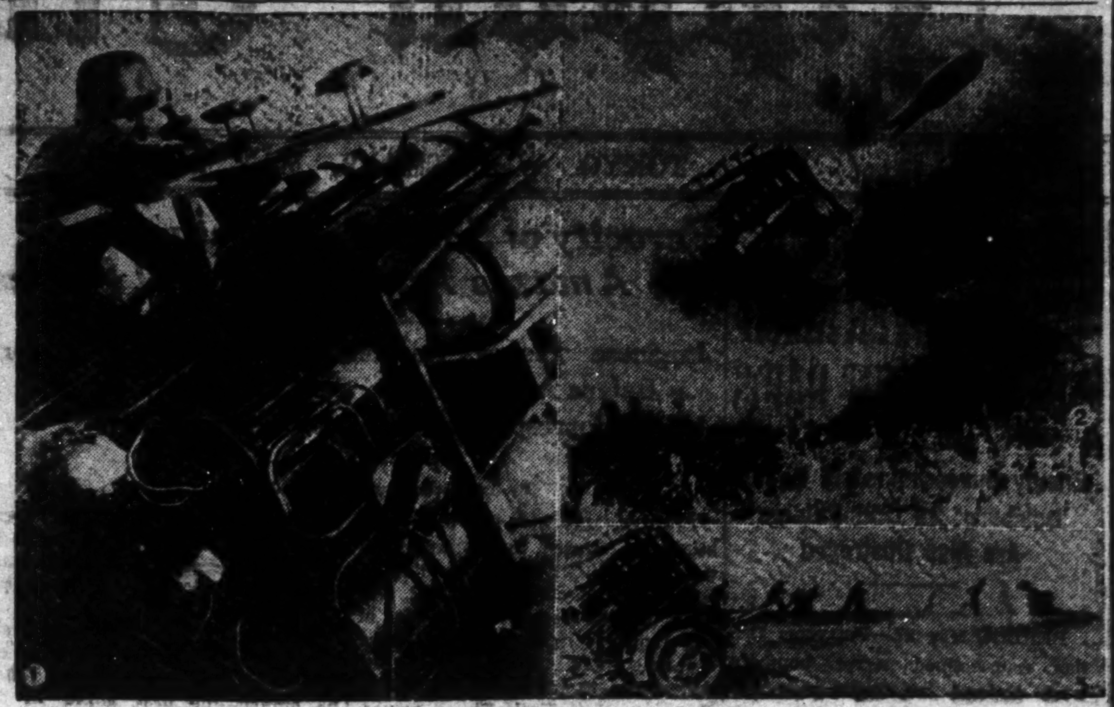
Special

STOCKHOLM, May 22.—John G. Winant, U.S. Ambassador to Britain, is expected to be succeeded shortly by W. Averell Harriman, U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, according to the London correspondent of the Swedish paper, Stockholms Tidningen.

The report added that Sumner Welles, former U.S. Undersecretary of State, might take over the Moscow post.

The correspondent also quoted informed quarters in London as expecting another three-Power conference to be held in the not too distant future.

Germany's Rocket Gun



The above are three action shots of Germany's newest rocket gun which is now being used with great success on the Eastern Front. (1) A close-up view of the new weapon. The gun fires six rocket shells in quick succession, each of which is ignited with a separate detonator. (2) The rocket shell leaves the gun. (3) With all six rockets having been fired, the gun crew rushes forward to reload. On the extreme left is another rocket gun which has just been discharged.

FOE NOT RELEASING CONGRESS LEADERS

No Intention to Free Imprisoned Indians, Amery Tells Labor Party

Special

LISBON, May 22.—The British Government has no intention of releasing the Indian National Congress leaders still imprisoned, Leopold Amery, Secretary of State for India, declared in his letter replying to William Dobbie, Laborite, and 10 other Labor Party members of the Parliament who suggested their release, according to a London dispatch.

The letter to Amery had stated; "We believe Mahatma Gandhi's release should be treated as the starting point of general amnesty for all political prisoners." It also requested Amery to give close attention to the question of freeing all Congress leaders.

Amery replied as follows: "It is no doubt a natural expectation that the release of Mahatma Gandhi should lead the way to the release of other Congress leaders. It was, in fact, made with no such intention, but solely on the grounds of ill-health and the position as regards those still in detention remains unchanged."

Amery blamed the "deadlock" between the Government and the Indian National Congress on the latter's "Quit India" resolution of August 1942, which he said "at a critical time was aimed at paralyzing the whole machinery of the Government in order to enforce their political demands."

Reflecting the Congress' steadfast resolution to win independence, Amery further stated: "The Viceroy's appeal for cooperation made in his address to the Indian Legislature in February has so far met with no response from the Congress leaders and it is difficult to see how their release could be contemplated by the Governor-General and his Council who are responsible for the security and defense of India."

Amery added that it was impracticable to hold elections for the central and provincial legislatures during the monsoon period in reply to the suggestion by the labor parliamentarians that such elections be held.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

May 22

At the Italian Southern Front, strong enemy infantry and tank forces continued their attacks with the focal point situated in the Longla-Pontecorvo sector. The enemy who repeatedly succeeded in entering Pico was thrown out again in immediate counter-thrust. In the area northwest of Pontecorvo, our counter-attacks threw the enemy back toward the south and removed the bridgehead which had been established yesterday across the Liri River. Embittered fighting is raging for Pontecorvo and the enemy suffered heavy casualties without achieving any success.

Our bombers last night effectively attacked the enemy motorized columns in the Fondi area.

From the Eastern Front, there are reports of local fighting only. On the lower Dniester and at the river bend south of Dubosari, our forces attacked the enemy, who encircled in this area, was wiped out.

U.S. bomber formations yesterday attacked localities and passenger trains in northern and central Germany, inflicting casualties. AA-batteries of the Luftwaffe and of the naval command downed 32 enemy aircraft.

The R.A.F. made terror attacks against Duisburg and other cities in the Rhenish-Westphalian area causing damage and casualties. Despite the difficult defense conditions, 33 enemy four-engined bombers were destroyed.

Our bombers attacked special targets in eastern England.

New Rail Schedule Causes Confusion At London Stations

Special

LISBON, May 22.—Thousands of travelers besieged London railway terminals yesterday to start their journeys before the introduction of the new summer schedule today as many trains may be cancelled at a moment's notice, according to a London dispatch. At Paddington, many would-be travelers to the west country were left behind, while trains to Birmingham, South Wales and Scotland were so packed that even in the corridors it was impossible to move. Advance railway tickets to the northern seaside resorts are being rationed. Two new sets of railway timetables came into force today, one is for the public and the second is a "ghost time-table" indicating the trains which may be cut at a moment's notice.

FOE GLIDER TROOPS FLEE FROM MAWLU

Abandon Position and Retreat Unable to Withstand Terrific Nippon Offensive

By S. NARITA

Of the Military Press Corps

AT X X ON THE INDIAN FRONT, May 20.—Surrounded by the Japanese, the enemy glider troops who had descended in the Fukawng area in an attempt to take the advanced positions of the Japanese in the area, could no longer withstand the terrific Japanese offensive conducted since May 8 and have abandoned their position at Mawlu and are now in full retreat in the direction of the eastern bank of Lake Indawgyi.

The Japanese units in the Kohima area gave battle to the enemy forces that had been massed from the direction of Dimapur in an endeavor to wrest back Kohima and are now engaged in furious fighting in the neighborhood of Neruhima and Subsa. Cooperating with the land units, the Japanese air force has been daily attacking the enemy artillery positions in that area. The land units are tightening their hold on the Kohima-Imphal Road so as to frustrate any enemy attempt at a counter-attack.

The Yunnan army that had been watching for an opportunity to advance to the eastern bank of the Nu River began to cross the river at several points on May 11 in order to attack our Tengyueh positions. Our forces in the Nu River area have struck back and are inflicting severe damage on the enemy. The enemy unit thus shattered is the 115th Regiment of the newly-organized 39th Division.

The enemy is still devoting the main strength of his air force to the environs of Kohima and Imphal to prevent the Japanese from gaining access to Imphal. The enemy air force is active also in the northern Burma area in frantic efforts to keep open the air route for the transportation of supplies to Chungking. The Japanese air force is not only cooperating with the land units but is attacking the air bases of the enemy which have been advanced to the Fukawng front. It has scored direct hits on the Southup airdrome and thoroughly destroyed the gliders on the ground, transport planes, ammunition dumps and facilities at several places.

REICH SCRIBE BARES YANKEE COWARDICE

U.S. Troops Shun Hand-to-Hand Fighting; Stresses Germany's Strength

Special

LISBON, May 22.—Every American soldier returning from the front is shocked at the attitude of the American public toward the German armed forces, writes Quentin Reynolds in the preface of his book "The Curtain Rises," which was published recently, according to a New York dispatch.

While the American public is concerned about the Japanese, they pooh-pooh the German armed forces, Reynolds said, emphasizing that the American people have nothing to go by when they say "Germany can collapse at any moment."

Reynolds pointed out that the Germans had only recently put into commission their new Focke-Wulff plane which he described as a "marvelous plane" which the Americans had nothing equal to offer.

He went on to describe the new German plane by saying that "crews of submarine chasers refuse to put up a fight when this plane comes into sight."

Regarding the German submarines, Reynolds said it was true they had been less active of late, but they have been equipped with new weapons in the meantime. He said that the American generals at the front declare that the German army is strong as ever and very experienced.

Meanwhile, the typical American soldier at the Nettuno beachhead is described by a German war reporter, Armin Eichholz, according to a Berlin dispatch.

The typical American soldier at Nettuno, he describes, is broad-shouldered and tall, and apart from machine-guns, rifles, automatic pistols and hand-grenades, he carries also a two-edged dagger about 20 centimeters long for close-range fighting. But thus far no instance is known when the dagger had been used.

The reporter said that despite his apparent physical superiority, the American soldier lacks confidence in hand-to-hand fighting. German soldiers in that respect are calmer, more experienced and quicker in action.

Actual hand-to-hand fighting has occurred only rarely between the Germans and Americans, he said, adding that to the American, the war ceases at the distance of three meters.

All the stronger, on the other hand, the reporter adds, is the employment of the American artillery at the Nettuno beachhead. Guns are trained on the smallest targets. It has happened that the Americans direct the fire of entire batteries against a spot where there is only one single German soldier visible.

Aviatrices Employed By Anglo-Americans For Supply Service

Special

LISBON, May 22.—The Anglo-Americans are now resorting to the use of American and English women as pilots in their supply service, it has been noted in the Italian front, according to a Rome dispatch. They were observed at Bari, which is the Anglo-American supply base in Southern Italy.

CAMPAIGN IN HONAN WORRYING BRITISH

Speedy Progress of Nippon Operations Perturbs Both Government and People

Domei

STOCKHOLM, May 20.—The progress of the Japanese campaign on the Honan front is seriously perturbing both the British Government and people, according to information reaching here from London.

Paul Renka, war correspondent of The Sunday Dispatch, a British paper, commented today on the situation at Chungking as follows:

"Henry Wallace, Vice-President of the United States, is now already on his way to Chungking but difficulties are slowly but steadily piling up on Chungking. There are at present three questions on which we must press Chungking for answers:-

"(1) Does Chungking have to station the bulk of its troops in areas not directly connected with the war?

"(2) Is the Chungking army unable to stand on its feet and unable to exert pressure on the Japanese forces in Burma?

"(3) Is the Chungking regime using the greater part of the air-transported materials solely to equip its own army?"

The Daily Mail, on the other hand, reports on the shock produced on the British mind by the Honan campaign as follows:

"The British public has received quite a jolt over the news of the serious situation in China. The British people had all too clearly been forgetful of China. The Japanese forces have reduced Honan Province and have opened traffic on the Peking-Hankow Railway. But the nation, so far from being guided by a single leader, is rent between the Kuomintang and Communist regimes. For three years, 500,000 troops of the Chungking army have been immobilized in northern China to keep an eye on the Communist army. If at this critical moment, the Japanese should succeed in bringing all China under control, anti-Axis victory in East Asia will have to be indefinitely postponed."

The Reuters correspondent at Chungking, pointing out the Japanese Honan campaign to be a menace to Szechuan Province, reports:

"The military situation in China is amazing. The Japanese have brought the Honan plains under their control, crossed the Yellow River and have virtually completed the occupation of the important Peking-Hankow Railway. Any cessation of the Japanese operations in the near future is not to be dreamt of. It must not be forgotten that there are no Hitler Lines or Westwalls in China and yet the Chungking army is fighting far west of Shanghai."

Aussies, Canadians Are Not Impressed By Empire Meeting

Special

LISBON, May 22.—Reaction on the final communique issued after the conclusion of the British Empire Conference in London has not been very favorable, writes the Canberra correspondent of the London Times. He said, that the Australians are of the opinion that the final statement only contained the old well-known statements which indicated that many of the differences of opinion among the British Dominions have cropped up. The people in Canada, too, he added, are dissatisfied with the results of the Empire Conference. The Montreal Gazette, for instance, laconically wrote, "The final communique is a political document of no importance."

ANTI-ESPIONAGE MEASURES STRENGTHENED BY BURMA

Steps Taken to Combat Spies Who Enter Country by Means of Gliders

Domei

RANGOON, May 21.—In order to frustrate Anglo-American plots, the Burmese Government has decided to strengthen anti-espionage measures.

Notices regarding this decision have been forwarded to the members of the National Service Corps in various districts of the country in the name of U Ba Lwin, Director of the National Service Bureau. The notice provides that members of the National Service Corps, in close cooperation with the police and the Japanese and Burmese armies, will assume the heavy responsibility of defending the country.

In this connection, Director Lwin stated as follows:

"The Government has instructed National Service Corps members to do their best to capture enemy spies who enter our country by means of gliders. The Burmese Government earnestly desires that service corps members will resolutely fight to eliminate this danger to the nation.

"The enemy, who has become desperate because of his successive defeats, may resort to the inhuman act of poisoning wells or reservoirs. It is in order to forestall and shatter such an inhuman plot that the present measures have been decided.

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China
Canton, Chefoo, Hankow, Hangchow, Hoihow, Hongkong, Kowloon, Kiukiang, Nanking, Peking, [illegible], Shanghai, Shaohsing, Swatow, Shihhweiyao, Tientsin (Asahi-Gai & 3rd St. & Miyajima), Tsinan, Tsingtao.
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Thailand
Alor-Star, Bangkok, Kota-Bharu, Kuala-Trengganu.
Burma
Bassein, Lashio, Mandalay, Maymyo, Mergui, Moulmein, Myingyan, Prome, Rangoon, Shwebo, Taunggyi, Tavoy.
Malai
Ipoh, Johore-Bharu, Kuala-Kangsar, Kuala-Lipis, Kuala-Lumpur, Kuantan, Malacca, Penang, Seremban, Shonan, Tandjong-Pinang (Shonan), Taiping.
Sumatra
Bencoolen, Bukit-Tinggi, Djambi, Kota-Raja, Lho-Seumawe, Medan, Padang, Pakanbaroe, Palembang, Pangkal-Pinang, Pematang-Siantar, Sibolga, Telok-Betong.
Djawa
Bandoeng, Bodjonegoro, Bogor, Djakarta (Stationsplein & Noordwijk), Djember, Jogjakarta, Kediri, Madioen, Magelang, Malang, Pamekasan, Pekalongan, Poerwokerto, Semarang, Serang, Soerakarta, Soerabaya, Tjirebon.
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REPEATED DEFEATS HAUNT CHUNGKING

Japanese Victory in Honan Crushes Enemy's Hopes of Attacking Japan

The advance of the Japanese Forces deep into Honan Province in the present offensive campaign has dealt a smashing blow to Chungking's desperate attempt to launch a large-scale counter-offensive against Japan following the strengthening of the American air force in China.

On May 9, less than 20 days after the start of the Honan offensive, the Japanese troops succeeded in driving a wedge between the First and Fifth War Zones of the Chungking army at Kioshan on the Peking-Hankow Railway.

To Chungking, the China Affair has been an uninterrupted succession of overwhelming defeats. It is estimated that more than 3,000,000 bodies have been abandoned by the enemy in addition to a large number of troops taken prisoner by the Japanese since the outbreak of the China Affair.

Chungking divided the Chinese continent into nine war zones, in which they stationed more than 300 divisions. These troops were directly under the command of Chiang Kai-shek who was assisted by General Ho Ying-chin, his chief of staff and Chang Chin-chung, member of the War Council.

The task of fortifying these districts was practically completed by the time the Nanyueh Military Council was held in October, 1938, immediately following the reduction of the Wuchang-Hankow district by the Japanese.

The Chungking forces which are stationed in these nine War Zones are made up of troops under the direct control of Chungking and the remnants of the so-called provincial armies which were defeated during the earlier days of the China Affair. As a precautionary measure, Chiang Kai-shek placed the provincials under officers that were under the direct control of Chungking and who were graduates of the Whampoa Military Academy at Canton.

One commander, one or two deputy-commanders and a chief of staff are stationed in each of the nine War Zones. The strength of the Chungking forces stationed in these War Zones range from three to five Army Corps. Each Army Corps has two or three armies and each army is made up of from three to four divisions.

A description of the state of each of the nine War Zones in addition to the relative strength of the Chungking forces as well as the names of their commanders and vice-commanders are as follows:

Flood Own People

First War Zone: Forty-two divisions have been stationed in this War Zone under Commander Chiang Ting-wen and Deputy-Commander Tang En-po. In May 1938, the army stationed in this sector destroyed the banks of the Yellow River in the neighborhood of Chungmow completely ignoring the welfare of the 100,000,000 inhabitants of North China in a desperate attempt to check the Japanese Forces which were advancing westward along the Lung-hai Railway. Subsequently, during 1941, the district was penetrated on three occasions by Japanese troops. In these operations, the enemy abandoned more than 70,000 bodies, while over 30,000 were taken prisoner by the Japanese.

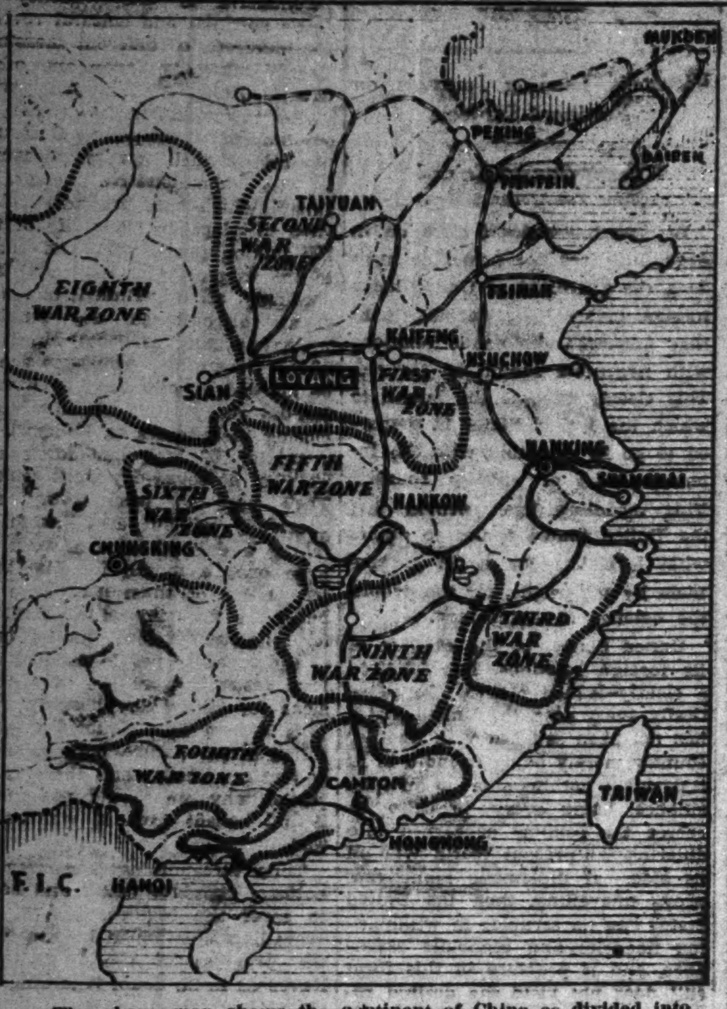
Second War Zone: The strength of the Chungking Forces in this sector is placed at 25 divisions with Yen Hsi-shan as commander and Yang Ai-yuan as vice-commander. Prior to the outbreak of the China Affair, more than 20 years had been spent by Yen Hsi-shan, commander of the district, in consolidating his position in this sector. He was, however, compelled to transfer his headquarters to Shensi Province across the Yellow River as the result of the pacification campaigns which were carried out by the Japanese Forces since their occupation of Taiyuan. The 18th Army Corps of the Chinese Communists dominate those areas which have not yet come under the complete control of the Japanese Forces.

Commander Surrenders

Three principal campaigns have been conducted by the Japanese Forces in this zone. In course of the Tansing campaign which was carried out in the spring of last year, the enemy lost more than 10,000 men killed. While this campaign was still going on, Pang Ping-hsun and Sun Tien-ying, commander and vice-commander respectively of the 24th Army Corps, together with 7,500 of their men surrendered to the Japanese and immediately joined the peace movement of the National Government of China.

Third War Zone: The relative strength of the Chungking Force is 32 divisions under the command of Commander Ku Shu-tung and Vice-commanders Tang Shih-tsun and Liu Chien-hsu. This district extends far into the more important areas under the jurisdiction of the National Government. Consequently, this district has frequently been the center of attention of the Japanese Forces as well as of the Nanking Army. Chief among the campaigns that have been conducted in this sector are the Anhwei campaign in April, 1940, the Kiangnan campaign in October of the same year, which centered around Taihu and Shaoshing and the Chekiang-Kiangsu campaign in May, 1942 in which the enemy left behind 42,000 dead in addition to 17,000 prisoners taken by the Japanese. This district is noted for such points as Lishui and Yushan which have been transformed into advance bases for the American air force in China.

Scene of Chungking Disasters



The above map shows the continent of China as divided into nine war zones by Chungking and in which armies of varying strength are stationed. All but in one zone, the eighth where no battles have occurred with the Japanese Forces, Chiang Kai-shek's troops have met defeat after defeat ever since the start of the China Affair.

Fourth War Zone: Only six divisions are stationed in this sector commanded by Commander Chang Fa-kuei and Vice-Commander Hsia Wei. Kwangsi Province which falls in this district has been dominated by Li Tsung-jen and Pai Tsung-hei. At present the district is under the command of Chang Fa-kuei, a fact which reveals the nature of the personnel policy pursued by Chiang Kai-shek. Nanning, one of the most important points in this district, fell into Japanese hands toward the end of November, 1939, after a battle in which the enemy abandoned 57,000 dead. Reports spread by Chungking reveal that the army stationed in this district was recently reinforced by a mechanized unit equipped with modern armored cars.

Fifth War Zone: Under Commander Li Tsung-jen and Vice-commander Li Peng-chien, 32 divisions are stationed in this War Zone. This district lies directly in front of the first line of the Japanese Expeditionary Army in Central China. The enemy force stationed in this district has been the subject of repeated attacks carried out by the Japanese troops. The more important of the campaigns which have been conducted by the Japanese Forces in this district include the Jangtung campaign in March, 1939, the Hupeh campaign in May of the same year, the winter operations of December in the same year, the second Jangtung campaign in May, 1940 in which the enemy left behind 85,000 dead bodies in addition to 4,500 troops taken prisoner, the Han River campaign in November of the same year, the Kiangpei campaign in May, 1941, the campaign for the annihilation of the enemy in Kiangpei in February, 1943, and the campaign for the control of Kiangnan in May of the same year, in which the enemy abandoned 45,000 bodies while 64,000 were taken prisoner by the Japanese.

Vital to Chungking

Sixth War Zone: The strength of the Chungking Force in this district is placed at 26 divisions under Commander Sun Lien-chung and Vice-commanders Wu Chi-wei and Hwang Chi-hsiang. This district is of vital importance for the defense of Chungking. Chen Cheng, in the past, repeatedly boasted to the effect that this district was impregnable to any Japanese attack. However, the enemy in this district experienced a crushing defeat during the Changteh campaign in the fall of last year in which the enemy abandoned 32,000 bodies in addition to the 14,000 officers and men taken prisoner by the Japanese.

Seventh War Zone: Seventeen divisions have been stationed in this sector under the command of Commander Yu Han-mou and Vice-commander Chiang Kuang-ting. This district, which includes Kwangtung Province, is the scene of internal strife due to the struggle for power among the interests identified with Chen Chi-tang, Li Chi-shen and Li Han-hun, self-appointed Governor of Kwangtung Province. Four major operations have been carried out by the Japanese in this district since the fall of Canton.

Eighth War Zone: Forty-eight divisions have been stationed in this War Zone under the command of Commander Chu Shao-hang and Vice-commanders Hu Tsung-nan and Fu Tso-yi. No battles have yet occurred in this district. It is reported that a portion of the army stationed in this district has been transferred to Sinkiang Province. The organization of this district was not effected to facilitate the conduct of the war against Japan but to help bring the northwestern regions of China completely under the control of Chungking and at the same time to facilitate the operations against the Chinese Communists.

Ninth War Zone: The strength of the Chungking Army in this district is 31 divisions and commanded by Commander Hsueh Chueh and Vice-commanders Yang Hsin and Wang Ling-chi. In the past, the Chungking troops stationed in this War Zone have been the subject of devastating attacks carried out by the Japanese troops. The chief campaigns conducted in this district include the Hunan campaign in May, 1939, the Changsha campaign, the operations against the eastern part of Hunan Province and the Kin River and the Chekiang-Kiangsi campaign. The Japanese troops have been focussing their attention on this district ever since the establishment of bases at many points by the American air force in China.

There were two other War Zones, one of which embraced the district along the Soviet border and the other in the Hopei-Chahar War Zone. These, however, were abolished at the end of March, this year.

Rites Set for Attu Heroes

Memorial services for Lieutenant-General Yasuo Yamazaki and 2,000 heroes of Attu Island will be solemnized on May 29, exactly one year since they put up their heroic stand on the bleak northern shores, at the Higashi Honganji Temple in Sapporo. The bereaved families and military authorities will attend the ceremony.

Burma Cadets See Tominaga

Young Burmese officers, who are currently enrolled in Japan's Army and Air Academies, on Monday, called on Lieutenant-General Kyoji Tominaga, War Vice-Minister, who on behalf of the War Minister addressed them with words of encouragement.

Ba Han Party Schedule

Dr. Ba Han, U Soe Nyun and U Ba Nyein of the Burmese Special Research Commission will inspect the Agricultural Experimental Station and the Industrial Arts Guidance Institute, both located at Nishi-Sugamo, Toshima-ku, the former at 9:30 a.m. and the latter at 2 p.m. today.

BURMA BOLSTERS INDUSTRIAL SETUP

Survey Reveals Great Progress Made to Attain Sufficiency In All Fields

The Burmese Special Research Mission headed by Dr. Ba Han has arrived in this country to fulfill the first part of its mission of studying industrial conditions in Japan, Manchoukuo, China and other regions of Greater East Asia in order to gain knowledge to be used in the establishment of a Planning Board in Burma.

That the various countries of Greater East Asia are proceeding with the work of industrial reconstruction, can be seen by the fact that a Planning Board was inaugurated in the Philippines sometime ago, and that Thailand, too, is pushing the development of its resources under a five-year plan for industrial expansion.

Burma is also now endeavoring to build up an industrial system which will enable the Burmese to become self-sufficient in all fields of industry. Prior to the outbreak of the current war, the industries of Burma were of little or no consequence. These industries, such as they were, were completely destroyed by the British in the early days of the war when they systematically pursued their destructive policy.

Rising from the ruins to which they were reduced, the industries of Burma are now endeavoring to set up a system by which the country, with the support and cooperation of Japan, may become self-sufficient in all lines of industrial activities.

The following is a brief survey of the industrial development now taking place in Burma:

1. Fiber Industry:

A cotton mill equipped with 16,000 spindles, located near Minjikan, was completely destroyed by the British soon after the outbreak of the war. When the work of reconstruction was begun, Japan sent many industrialists to help build up Burma's spinning industry. Thanks to their efforts, tens of thousands of spindles were freshly installed. Furthermore, a plan is now afoot to increase this number.

In the textile industry, a plant with millions of looms is now functioning. A vast number of hand looms is also being used to meet the rapidly growing nation-wide demand for cotton goods. Burma is now well on its way to becoming self-sufficient in this field. It will soon be able to meet a substantial portion of the needs of both the civilians and the army with goods produced within the country.

A four-year plan has been introduced under which Burma is attempting to bring about an increase in the output of cotton. Furthermore, attempts are now being made to improve the quality of the home product by the introduction of the Cambodian and Malai No. 3 brands of cotton.

The jute output in Burma is increasing rapidly. The fiscal year 1943 saw a yield of thousands of tons. Under a five-year plan, efforts are being made to increase the amount of land under jute cultivation so that by the fiscal year 1947 a far greater increase in the output of jute may be realized.

Under this five-year plan, the manufacturers of hemp bags will be able to increase their output to such an extent as to enable Burma to supply itself with all the hemp bags it needs in connection with its rice export.

Burma's efforts to substitute reed and straw for hemp in the manufacture of bags have proved most successful. The production of these substitutes will soon be put on a commercial basis.

The problem of paper in Burma has come to an end with the discovery of new uses to which the paper-mulberries and wild mulberries found north of the Shan States can be put. Experiments in the manufacture of paper from bamboo pulp are also being carried out successfully.

In order to promote the rapid development of all fiber industries, the Burmese Government is now taking steps to encourage all undertakings located in the same area and producing the same goods, to form a corporation.

2. Iron Industry:

Considerable deposits of iron ore are to be found in Burma. In pre-war days, a factory with a capacity for producing 25,000 tons of iron annually was operating at Bodoin. It was the only iron plant in Burma.

As an emergency measure, charcoal furnaces have been installed. The rolling of steel and the manufacture of iron are proceeding rapidly with efforts to expand this industry as speedily as possible under the circumstances.

3. Electric Power and Coal:

Coal and electricity, which are essential to industrial development, cannot be found in any sufficient amount in Burma. During pre-war days, Burma was generating 80,000 kilowatts of electricity, and using 400,000 tons of Bengal coal. This amount, however, was evidently insufficient to meet the needs of its industrial activities. A study is now being made in an effort to increase the supply of electricity in Burma.

Measures have already been taken to increase the output of coal in Burma. It is understood that an improvement in transportation facilities cannot be attained unless the coal problem is solved.

4. Petroleum:

All oil facilities in Burma, which were destroyed by the enemy forces before they fled, are being restored by the Japanese. Though the oil resources have not been developed to a large extent, as yet, a great future for the oil industry is predicted in Burma.

5. Oil-extraction:

The extraction of oil from peanuts, sesame seeds and cotton seeds is proceeding most successfully. No small proportion of the output of oil in Burma is represented by what is produced by farmers using stone mortars.

6. Salt:

The annual production of salt in Burma in pre-war days was 50,000 tons. Efforts are now being made to build a fresh salt-field in the area of XX. As soon as this new field begins to function, Burma will have a surplus of salt to export.

7. Sugar:

By using sweet potatoes, Burma has built up a prosperous sugar industry. In pre-war days, the output amounted to 35,000 tons a year. Today, Burma is not only self-sufficient in her supply of sugar, but can easily increase her production to a considerable extent.

8. Soap and Matches:

Burma is self-sufficient in the supply of both soap and matches. If she could be supplied with a sufficient amount of phosphorous chemicals, she would be able to produce matches in quantities large enough to permit her to build up an extensive export trade in this product.

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LECTURING ON AVIATION

Colonel Iijima to Speak in Osaka On Reich, Japan Plane Output

Colonel Masayoshi Iijima of the Imperial Aviation Headquarters will be the speaker at the special aeronautic lecture meeting to be held at the Hotel New Osaka auditorium in Osaka at 11:30 a.m., Friday, under the auspices of the Kinki Branch of the Japan-Germany Culture Society. Colonel Iijima will speak on "The Development of the Aviation Industry in Germany and Japan's Plan on Increased Airplane Production."

He returned to Japan recently after inspecting the aviation industry in wartime Germany, and is regarded as one of the most important figures in the aeronautic world in this country. Views will be exchanged between Colonel Iijima and the audience. Prominent scholars and businessmen have been invited to the meeting.

Concert Calendar

Symphony Evening by the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Noboru Kaneko, Friday, May 26, at 6:30 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Program: Talke's Old Friend; Strauss' Waltz—The Roses of the South; Shinichi Takata's Sakura; Tschaikowsky's Ballet Suite—The Swan Lake; Schubert's Unfinished Symphony.

A grand concert commemorating the 39th Navy Day, under the auspices of the Yomiuri Shimbun, assisted by the Navy Ministry and Board of Information, Saturday, May 27, at 12:30 p.m., at the Hibiya Open Air Stadium, featuring Tokyo Hoso Kokyogaku-dan; Nippon Hoso Chorus Group; Tokyo Koto Ongakuin, Nippon Chorus Groupe, directed by Koscak Yamada and Yazaemon Hayakawa.

Eleventh subscription concert by the Nippon Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Kazuo Yamada, Wednesday and Thursday, June 7 and 8, at 6 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Soloist: Susumu Nagai, at the piano. Program: Brahms' Symphony No. 3; Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1 in C major; Bunya Ko's Symphonic Poem, "Ranpeki-no-Sora-ni Nariwataru Hatobue"; Wever's Waltz—Invitation to the Dance.

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AXIS LADIES HOLD MEETING IN TOKYO

Friendly Gathering at Italian Embassy Sponsored by Fascist Women's Association

The spacious garden of the Italian Embassy in Mita, Tokyo, was the scene Tuesday afternoon of an informal friendship gathering of Italian, German and Japanese women under the auspices of the Fascist Women's Association of Japan.

In groups of two's and three's hostesses and guests strolled over the wide lawn and among the flowers as they admired the natural beauty of their surroundings.

Competing with the perfect setting outside were the Embassy rooms throughout which flowers of the season bloomed in profusion here and there in numerous vases and pots.

Later in the afternoon friendly chatter could be heard mingling with the soft clinking of silver as tea was served inside the Embassy.

As a climax to a most enjoyable afternoon was the musical program consisting of Italian, German and Japanese music. Taking part were Miss Mamiko Sugiura, soprano, Madame Sakae Kitazawa, mezzo-soprano, Miss Yasuko Sonoda, accompanist, and Yoichi Hiraoka, famous xylophonist.

It was regretted by all present that Madame Omero Principini, wife of the Charge d'Affaires of the Italian Social Republic in Japan, could not attend due to illness.

CHIANG, LIN START TALKS

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 22.—Lin Tsu-han, representative of the Chinese Communist Party, who arrived in Chungking on May 17 conferred with Chiang Kai-shek and opened negotiations on the pending questions between Chungking and the Communist Party, according to a Chungking broadcast intercepted here.

Chungking declared that as the result of the present conference, the anti-Japanese front would be unified and strengthened, but nothing was announced as regards the nature of the conference.

Rites Held for War Dead

Joint funeral services for Captain Katsuji Watanabe and others who met gallant death on the South Pacific Front were solemnly held at the Saseho Naval Station at 9 a.m. on Tuesday. Present were Vice-Admiral Marquis Teruhisa Komatsu, Commander-in-Chief of the Saseho Naval Station, Admiral Viscount Takayoshi Kato, other naval officers, civilians and the bereaved families.

'Kinshi' in New Package

"Kinshi", a popular cigarette brand, will be sold in a package of 20 for 45 sen within three or four days first in Tokyo. The same brand is now being sold for 23 sen per package containing 10 cigarettes.

Obituary

Intendant Major-General Yoshizo Miyake, 71, died of pneumonia on Sunday. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at his Kaji-machi residence in Wakayama City.

Tetsusuke Akiyama, 65, president of the Tokyo Photographic Research Institute passed away on Monday at his Setagaya residence in Tokyo. Funeral services will be held from 8:30 a.m. Wednesday at his residence.

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POSTHUMOUSLY PROMOTED

Raise by One Rank of Late Major-General Kosonoe Announced

Major-General Kunio Kosonoe, who sometime ago returned from the front on account of illness and who died on May 20, has been posthumously promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General, it was announced by the War Ministry on Monday. The funeral service for the late Lieutenant-General Kosonoe was held at the Aoyama Funeral Hall here on Tuesday afternoon.

The Ministry also revealed the same day that Major-General Toyoichiro Yokota has been appointed as Principal of the Maebashi Army Preparatory Academy, and Major-General Chikara Hiraoka as Chief of the Recruitment Department of the Tokyo Division.

MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD FOR LATE NAVAL WARRIOR

A memorial service for Fleet-Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, late Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet, was solemnly held at Chokoji Temple, the late Commander-in-Chief's family temple, in Nagaoka, at 8 a.m. on Sunday, the day that the death of the Fleet-Admiral was announced exactly a year ago.

The service was attended by Governor Tamon Maeda of Niigata Prefecture and many other Government officials and representatives of various associations. From early morning, the temple was crowded with a stream of worshippers.

At 10 a.m. the same day, a memorial service was also held at the Municipal Hall attended by some 1,500 dignitaries representing 11 national schools and youths corps.

At the Nagaoka Middle School, Alma Mater of Fleet-Admiral Yamamoto, and other middle schools memorial rites and exhibitions in connection with the life of the late Fleet-Admiral were conducted. In the evening, a special lecture meeting was held under the auspices of the Society For Paying Reverence To the Late Fleet-Admiral.

Cabinet Hears Shigemitsu

At the regular Cabinet meeting held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu explained the general international problem. He was followed by Agriculture and Commerce Minister Shinya Uchida, who dwelt on the establishment of the headquarters to increase wartime foodstuff production.

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TOKYO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1944

The Inevitable Disunity

I

The Birmingham speech of Prime Minister Jan C. Smuts of the Union of South Africa last Friday was not the only disclosure made of the failure of the recently concluded Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers. Prime Minister MacKenzie King of Canada, in his speech before both Houses of the English Parliament on May 12 while the Conference was still going on, hinted clearly enough at the disunity which was then already making it clear that the Conference would be able to reach no real agreement.

Between a long account of Canada's activities in the war and an equally long and very general and vague praise of the supposed strength and vision of the British Commonwealth—pointless platitudes which could have no object save to serve as a shock-absorbing cushion for his more trenchant, disagreeable disclosure—King inserted two short statements which constitute the core of his speech.

The first was that, in considering new methods of organization for the British Commonwealth, these new methods must not appear as an attempt to limit the autonomy of the various component units in favor of the establishment of a distinct British bloc of nations. The second was that economic security could not be ensured by any nation or group of nations in isolation, so the British Commonwealth must pursue policies which are in character not exclusive but inclusive. To this statement, King added the hint that "Canada's relations with the United States have been especially friendly . . . . We like to think that our country had some part in bringing about harmony of sentiment between the United States and the whole British Commonwealth . . . . It is our highest hope that the peoples of the British Commonwealth and the United States will continue to march at each other's side, united more closely than ever."

II

What MacKenzie King meant by these statements and how they reveal the disunity which existed in the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference become crystal clear in the light of the patent purpose of the Conference and the earlier statements of its participants.

As is well known, Prime Minister Jan C. Smuts of South Africa, speaking last November as a mouthpiece of the high policy-makers of London, declared that for Britain to maintain her position as a world power, to be included along with the United States and the Soviet Union in the "Trinity of Powers" which he envisaged as the future rulers of the world, Britain would have to pursue a vigorous policy of power politics to consolidate a British-dominated sphere of influence in western Europe. To give force to this policy, Lord Halifax promptly called upon the Dominions to subordinate their individual interests and to give unified support to this English policy so that the British Empire, as a single bloc, might be able to confront and compete with its potential rivals.

But Prime Minister MacKenzie King had immediately voiced open dissent: "Behind the conception expressed by Halifax and Smuts lurks the idea of an inevitable rivalry between the Great Powers. Could Canada, situated as she is geographically between the United States and the Soviet Union and at the same time a member of the British Commonwealth, for one moment give support to such an idea? . . . . Such a conception runs counter to the establishment of an effective world security and, therefore, is opposed to the true interests of the Commonwealth itself."

In other words, King served notice that Canada could not afford to expose her western and northern coasts to possible Soviet retaliation nor sacrifice the profits of her economic dependence on the United States for the sake of supporting any England-centered policy of power politics which might antagonize the Soviet Union or alienate the United States. Better to appease the Soviet Union indefinitely and to concede pre-eminence to the United States under the euphemism of "cooperation with all the peace-loving countries of the world" than to risk the victimization of Canada as a pawn of England's imperial policy.

To reconcile the desires of the Imperial policy-makers for a unified Empire-bloc pursuing a unified policy of vigorous power politics and the special interests of Dominions like Canada which cling to regional autonomy and the freedom to continue its special economic relations with foreign countries like the United States, was obviously one of the major purposes for which the recent Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference was called.

But how completely that purpose failed is indicated by MacKenzie King's speech of May 12 in the very midst of the Conference deliberations. For King adamantly held to his former ground. The proposed new methods of organization for the British Commonwealth must not be an attempt to limit the autonomy of the various component units in favor of a distinct British bloc of nations. Canada must not be forced to give up her special position of economic dependence upon the United States in favor of an exclusive Commonwealth policy. King's speech, therefore, was an unmistakable reiteration of the notice that Canada would not agree to a tightening up of British Empire ties or to the subordination of Canada to a unified Empire policy which did not take into account her special local interests.

III

It is no wonder, therefore, that despite all the attempts of the authorities concerned to hide the fact, it has become clear that the recent Prime Ministers' Conference was a disappointment to its sponsors. It explains the vagueness of the official statement issued at the close of the Conference, and it explains also the evasiveness with which Prime Minister Smuts glossed over the actual results of the Conference in his Birmingham speech.

But the result was an inevitable one. By its very nature, the British Commonwealth cannot operate as a unified entity except in the broadest and most general way. To be sure, all Anglo-Saxons, be they English or colonials or Americans, can agree on the common objective of forcing Anglo-Saxon domination over the rest of the world. But as to specific methods there can be no agreement. Between the British Empire bent on preserving its age-old booty and the United States determined to carve out a new economic empire for herself, there can be no lasting cooperation. Between the English homeland with vital stakes on the continent of Europe and the Dominions with their independent economic interests and dependence upon the United States, there can be no real unity with respect to a comprehensive world policy. Between the necessity of England to export and the desire of the Dominions to nurture their own growing manufacturing industries, there can be no economic symbiosis.

Clash and strife are inevitable in the nature of the Anglo-Saxon world. The statements of the leaders of the British Empire anent the recent Prime Ministers' Conference have provided a dramatic expression of this fact.

A Year Ago Today

May 24, 1943

The Japanese Forces operating in the area of Ichang occupied Changyang, Hupeh Province, the main foothold of the enemy 86th Army today. Changyang is 30 kilometers south of Ichang, enemy base on the Yangtze River.

* * *

The Conference on the Supply of Food of the anti-Axis Powers now being held at Hot Springs, Virginia, has reached a deadlock due to the stiff stand of the Soviet delegate. At the conference, the Soviet side demanded immediate supply of foodstuff to the Soviet Union from Anglo-American Powers, but this demand was flatly refused by British representatives who merely insisted on discussion of food issues after the termination of the war.

* * *

The strikers at rubber plants at Akron, Ohio, have now increased to 49,000, as 6,000 workers of the Goodyear Tire Company joined the strike today. Thus, the Goodyear Tire Company, the Goodrich Rubber Company and the Firestone Tire Company have practically suspended operations.

* * *

Emphasizing the threat Japan presents to Chungking, Shao Yu-lin, Director of Chungking's Information Bureau, frankly expressed Chungking's dissatisfaction with the United States air forces in China for not cooperating in the offensive operation against Japan, in his interview with newspapermen.

* * *

Brazil has lost 24 ships aggregating 107,636 tons, since the beginning of the war, and 873 members of the ships' crews perished, it was announced by the Brazilian Government. Since Brazil's declaration of war upon the Axis nations, approximately 25 per cent of its vessels has been sunk by Axis submarines.

Downfall of Britain

Indian Ocean, Backbone of British Empire, Doomed to Collapse by Onrush of U.S. Influence

By KEIICHI UENO
(From the Nanyo Keizai Kenkyu)

Prior to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the Indian Ocean was a British ocean in fact, with practically all British dominions (except Canada) centering round it. The Indian Ocean, thus, was the backbone of the British Empire.

Surrounded by the Himalaya area, Africa and Australia, the ocean makes a natural inland sea. This inland sea connects with the Atlantic via the Cape of Good Hope, the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. It reaches the Pacific via the Strait of Malacca. These connecting points had been centers of rival influences in olden times. Britain placed them under her control and thereby built up an Indian Ocean empire, the pillar of the British Empire. If Suez and Cape Town served as connecting links between the British Isles and the Indian Ocean, then Singapore was a base for the eastward advance of the Indian Ocean empire.

As long as the Indian Ocean supported the British Empire, her dominions surrounding this ocean had close economic relations with the mother country as a matter of course. As much as from 30 to 40 per cent of Australia's, India's and South Africa's trade was with England, as is shown in the following table:

	Exports	Imports
	(Percentages)	
Australia	54.8	41.5
India	34	31
South Africa	43.5	41.1

Reflects Dominions' Dependence

The excess of exports over imports reflects the degree of Britain's dependence on the Indian Ocean areas. Fifty-five per cent of the exports were foodstuffs and 35 per cent raw materials. How heavily dependent Britain is on the Indian Ocean areas for the supply of her vital needs can be gathered from the following figures: Tin 93 per cent; tungsten 83 per cent; manganese 85 per cent; rubber 98 per cent; jute 100 per cent; wool 67 per cent; hemp 49 per cent; leather and hides 82 per cent; wheat and flour 30 per cent; sugar 60 per cent; tea 95 per cent; cheese 63 per cent.

The whole thing was typical of the so-called colonial trade, the colonies supplying foodstuffs and raw materials to the home country and importing finished goods from it. This type of trade was the most beneficial to Britain as long as communication was maintained between the home country and the Indian Ocean, in that Indian Ocean areas could be retained as outlets for British finished goods.

Due to the fall of France and the Italian military operations against Africa in the early stage of the current European War, Britain lost her influence in the Mediterranean and was barred from the Suez Canal as an inevitable sequel. In consequence, she was compelled to take the detour route round the Cape of Good Hope to reach the Indian Ocean. This meant a crisis for Britain.

It was under such circumstances that Britain convened the Eastern Economic Conference in October, 1940, with the object of establishing self-sufficiency for her colonies in the region of the Indian Ocean. It was participated in by delegates from India, Burma, Ceylon, New Zealand, Australia, Southern Rhodesia, East Africa, the Union of South Africa, Hongkong, Malaya and Palestine. At the conference, Britain laid down a program which called for the following commodity-classified supply assignments to the participating dominions and possessions:

Raw cotton	India & East Africa
Coal	India, South Africa, Malaya & Australia
Manganese	India
Chromium	India & South Africa
Tungsten	Burma & Australia
Nickel	Burma & Australia
Jute	India
Rubber & tin	Malaya
Lead & teak	Burma
Copper, wheat & wool	Australia

Presaged Britain's Collapse

Establishment of such regional self-sufficiency presaged the collapse of the British Empire in the Indian Ocean and the estrangement of these regions from the mother country. The mere loss of Suez at once menaced Britain's control of her colonies in the Indian Ocean area; the fact plainly bespoke the vulnerability of the Indian Ocean empire. The fall of Singapore precipitated the inevitable crisis for this empire before it arrived in the form of the economic independence of the constituent areas from the mother country.

Upon the outbreak of the second European War, the Indian Ocean region's trade with Germany was disrupted, while its trade with other European countries declined rapidly. The loss was made up for by America and China in order of importance. Also, inter-colonial trade in the Indian Ocean region was opened. In short, the second European War impelled the trade of the Indian Ocean region being switched over from Europe to Pacific countries and to that inside the region; a drastic change came over the region's economic relations with the outside world.

Of such a development the Eastern Economic Conference referred to above was a foreboding. The Indian Ocean region, though rich in resources, was sadly deficient in technique and capital required for industrialization. This weakness offered a stimulus to the United States to dominate India in Britain's place. The infiltration of American influence was solely responsible for the change in the economic aspects of the Indian Ocean region.

The fall of Singapore cut off the Indian Ocean region from its newly established economic relations with the outside world. Singapore had been a guarantee of safety to the Indian Ocean empire as well as a base for Britain's advance on East Asia. The loss of this stronghold was an incalculable blow to the Indian Ocean empire. The subsequent loss of Andaman, Nicobar, the independence of Burma, Japanese air raid on Ceylon—these military reverses of Britain have spelt the complete collapse of the eastern defense of the Indian Ocean empire.

Defend Suez at All Cost

For the preservation of her power, Britain must needs check the downfall of the Indian Ocean empire, but since its eastern defense bases cannot be recovered in the face of Japanese advance, it is imperative that she should defend Suez at all cost and maintain her sea-power in the Mediterranean. The operations against North Africa and Italy were carried out not merely as a counter-offensive against Germany but also by way of reinforcing the Indian Ocean empire.

But Britain's desperate efforts are powerless to rehabilitate the crumbling Indian Ocean empire to its former strength. Granting that a crisis for Suez has been averted through the campaign in Italy, Britain is absolutely precluded from an eastward advance unless she can regain her defense ramparts east of the Indian Ocean. Hence the Mountbatten's attempt of counter-offensive against Burma. India, of course, must be made a major base for such counter-offensive. Now India, though rated by the League of Nations as one of eight major industrial countries, was a country of light industries in fact, having no heavy industries with the possible exception of pig-iron and steel production. And since Britain is unable to supply the necessary arms, they must be produced in India. So it is that America is playing a dominant role in the industrialization of India today. American capital and technique is indispensable for turning India into an arsenal. America's economic inroads into India have thus begun.

Equally aggressive has been America's economic penetration of South Africa, where, since the outbreak of the current war, American capital has been pouring in in an ever-increasing volume in the guise of American merchandise.

Australia has been turned into a base for American operations in the Pacific.

The Indian Ocean empire as the pillar of the British Empire is irrevocably doomed to collapse, in that it cannot be reinforced without permitting the onrush of American influence, the wolf at the back-door.

SONGS FROM PRISON

By MAHATMA GANDHI

O save me, Lord:

I cannot pray aright,
My sins arise and shame me with
defeat:

In grossest sloth and negligence
I have forborne
To do those things in which thou
hast delight:

Daily I tread the slimy path
Which leadeth down to woe and
black futility:

Full well I know what I should
do—
Give up myself for other men
In word, thought, deed:

But ah, I am so weak:
Ill-will and jealousy creep in,
And stifle all my good intent:

The Scriptures tell me plain
To keep the friendship of the good
and pure,

But pride and passion bid me keep
aloof—
And pride and passion I obey:
Thus do I take delight

In that which pileth pain on pain:
O save me, Lord,
Here only is my hope, my refuge,
In thee and in thy love:

Stretch out thy hand, and puck
me from the mire,

EAST ASIA'S EDITORIAL FORUM

Views of Leading Journals on Pertinent Subjects

From Foe to Friend

(From The Syonan Sinbun)

Because the internal situation in Argentina does not favor the anti-Axis, the guardians of United States foreign policy have deemed it fit that American diplomatic relations with Argentina should be severed. This clearly exposes the length to which the United States is prepared to go in meddling with the internal affairs of another country. This meddling itself proves that the United States denies to others what it claims for itself: government by the people, for the people, the essence of Democracy.

United States, in the conduct of its foreign relations, has followed a clearly-defined course. In practically every case, the United States has not been satisfied with another country merely being friendly to it; it demands nothing short of an open alliance, using every pressure to coerce the country concerned into entering the present World War on its side. If diplomatic maneuvers prove unavailing, then the United States has no scruples in withholding financial and economic assistance, and if pressure in this form still does not yield the desired result, the United States, without the least compunction and without the least regard for past relationships, will sever relations with the country concerned and dub it pro-Axis which, of course, is not necessarily the case.

Those who advocate the maintenance of international relations on the basis of justice and equality cannot help sympathizing with Argentina. At one juncture of the troubled state of her international affairs, Argentina was forced solely by unbearable American pressure to sever relations with the Axis countries, but it is clear now that even this extreme measure has given insufficient satisfaction to the United States The United States wants more: it demands from friendly countries nothing short of an open alliance with it, nothing short of war on its side. In the case of Argentina, it seems that the United States has gone one step even farther. The new Governmental set-up in Argentina displeases the United States: the United States wants a say in the selection of members of the Argentine Cabinet. The United States wants Argentina to accept dictation in this respect. Unwillingness on the part of Argentina has meant the severance of U.S. relations with it.

So it has come about that the United States, avowedly fighting a war for freedom and Democracy, is denying freedom and the practice of Democracy to the other nations of the world, especially those entirely dependent (due to the closure of markets in Europe and elsewhere) on the United States for absorption of their products and for supplies of American materials. The decision of the United States to sever relations with Argentina shows clearly—once again—that it will continue to be "friendly" only when the recipients of its "friendship" can serve its ends. If its ends cease to be served, its "friendliness" automatically ceases to be.

Wartime Life

(From The Shanghai Times)

All Asiatics are by nature peace-loving and law-abiding people. Naturally, we are second to none in resenting Anglo-American imperialism, which forced the present War of Greater East Asia upon Japan and other East Asiatic nations in order to tighten its death grip on this part of the world, as well as on Europe, Africa and elsewhere. We are therefore most grimly resolved to crush Anglo-American aggression and make not only ourselves but also all the rest of mankind free and independent in every respect. We fight for the cause of peace and justice, and not for the sake of war. We strive to put an end to imperialism and plutocracy and make the world safe for co-existence and co-prosperity for all nations and individuals. However, it must be made clear in this connection that we do not think of our own welfare and prosperity in terms of such superficial luxuries or "amenities of life" as Hollywood pictures, jazz music, joy-rides, expensive drinks, dinner jackets, cigars, central heating, etc. In fact, most of what Anglo-American plutocracy has foisted upon us in the name of "civilization" or "modern standards of life" can add nothing whatever to our real welfare or happiness. It is therefore immensely gratifying that the War of Greater East Asia has served as a real eye-opener for all Asiatic people regarding such Anglo-American imposture, with the result that we are now rapidly cleansing ourselves of all stains of untoward alien influence so as to make ourselves really worthy of our 5,000-year-old Asiatic civilization and culture.

Conducive to this tendency of Asia's spiritual and cultural revival are hundreds of different measures already taken by Japan and other Greater East Asiatic nations with a view to facilitating the conduct of our war of emancipation. Outstanding among such wartime measures is the administrative action of Japan, which was primarily calculated to adapt the daily life of the 100 million people of Japan better to the exigencies of the war. Accordingly, all Government offices in Japan discontinued the Sunday-holiday system as from March 1, 1944. Government employes are to be allowed to take turns to have a full-day rest twice a month without closing their offices on Sundays. As a matter of fact, our forefathers knew of no seven-day week system. They used to work every day cheerfully without any thought of taking a day off once a week, or even once a month for that matter. Some of them may have set apart the first day of each month for religious devotion, but for most of the Japanese people national and local festivals were the only occasions for taking any leisurely rest. This system is undoubtedly better suited to our nature, both physically and spiritually, and there is no reason why we should not revive it and benefit from it, war or no war.

Thus streamlining her wartime national structure better and better to meet the requirements of the prevailing situation in keeping with the progress of the war, Japan leaves us in no doubt regarding her ability to increase her war potential sufficiently to frustrate Anglo-American imperialism and make right triumph over might for the benefit of all mankind. Our faith in Japan's might of arms and our final vicory in the war is further strengthened by the enthusiasm with which not only Japanese residents in this country and elsewhere abroad but also all other East Asiatic races and peoples are spontaneously rendering wholehearted assistance and cooperation in prosecuting the war after the examples set up by the Japanese people on their home front. The way of life which is now being revived in Japan should by all means be kept up even after the war, so that the nation may remain absolutely proof against all degenerative alien influence for all time to come.

America's Minority Problem

(From the Noon Extra)

Roosevelt's desperate attempt to cultivate the affection and devotion of the 13,000,000 negroes in the United States have aroused considerable perturbation in the southern states. Hitherto the south has had a free hand in dealing with negroes, but 13,000,000 negroes furnish a handy reservoir of cannon-fodder; and to avail himself of this convenient reserve Roosevelt has lifted a number of restrictions on negro liberty, which the states below the Mason-Dixon Line find extremely objectionable.

The recent anti-negro speeches of a number of southern Senators are straws in the wind in connection with the growing black minority problem in the United States. So long as the war continues, the Ku Klux Klan and other militant anti-negro organizations will be kept in check by the Federal authorities insofar as possible, but so long as the root of discrimination is not removed, and it cannot be removed in America, the Roosevelt Administration will find itself in difficulties.

The President cannot prosecute this war effectively if one-tenth of the population of the United States stands out as living proof of the falsity of Roosevelt's claim that the United States is fighting for freedom and equality for all. On the other hand, to fight for negro rights would be tantamount to alienating the hitherto solidly Democratic south. Roosevelt's fourth-term ambitions are contingent upon a great military victory between now and November and the loyalty of the southern states.

Thirteen million sullen and recalcitrant negroes would greatly hamper the American war effort. An equal number of outraged white southerners would virtually mean the end of Roosevelt's dream of permanent residence in the White House. The President's problem is to find a middle course; and we don't think he has much chance of succeeding.

Not many people outside of America are aware of it, but until Roosevelt felt the urgent need of black cannon-fodder negroes were not permitted to enlist in the navy or Marine Corps except as non-military cooks, waiters and stewards. Negroes were also denied the right to serve their country in the air force. Since America's entry into the current war these restrictions have been lifted because Roosevelt needs men to die for his dream of world hegemony.

However, negro cannon-fodder is threatening Roosevelt's chances at the polls next autumn. Consequently it will be extremely interesting to see how the President deals with America's minority problem between now and then.

EAST ASIATIC REGION FAVORED BY NATURE

Foodstuffs and Raw Materials Produced in Abundance

By EIJI KOJIMA
(From the Asahi)

East Asia's climate is, on the whole, productive and growth-promoting. This is because many regions of East Asia have a combination of either (a) the monsoon and the tropical low atmospheric pressure or (b) the equatorial high temperature and a large volume of rain. This means, in either case, that East Asia's climate is of the so-called summer-rain type, which ensures the supply of water for the cultivation of agricultural crops at the required time.

It is true that the monsoon or the tropical low atmospheric pressure is often the cause for flood, drought damage and the rice-plant fever, but such calamities are, by no means, unpreventable by man.

On the other hand, however, in the case of a region having little rain and no large river, it is usually beyond the power of man to raise enough agricultural produce to feed a large population. There are many regions of this description in Africa and North America. The Soviet Union and North America contain a large number of areas too cold to be suitable for agriculture. East Asia, on the other hand, contains cold or dry areas only in the remotest parts. Europe has a chilly climate and, besides, lacks abundance of rain in summer-time. It is true that North and South America, particularly the latter, contain areas having a high temperature and a large volume of rain, but there is deficiency in labor necessary to turn this climatic advantage into a productive element. The same is true of Africa.

These comparisons show that East Asia enjoys a great advantage over Europe, Africa, the Soviet Union and the Americas in having a climatic condition necessary for an abundant production of foodstuffs and raw materials. The advantage is not confined to the summer-rain type climate alone. There is an alternation of aridity and humidity which facilitates the growing of rice and raw cotton. There is also a combination of a high temperature and perpetual humidity which is necessary for rubber growing. There are still other types of climate necessary for different agricultural purposes. This climatic heterogeneity is lacking in Europe, the Soviet Union and North America. It is seen only in South America and Africa.

Variety of Foodstuffs Required

Modern life requires a large variety of foodstuffs and raw materials produced under different climatic conditions. Climatic heterogeneity, then, is one of the indispensable requisites for the prosperity of a wide-area economic region.

So much for climatic advantages, let us now turn to a survey or the principal underground resources. East Asia is found to be poorer than Europe, the Soviet Union and the Americas in iron and coal resources, but the total volume is not so small as is likely to prevent industrial progress. Experts estimate the principal underground resources of the world as follows:

	(In 100 million tons)		
	Coal	Iron (Iron content of ores)	Petroleum
East Asia	3,730	50	1.5
Europe and Africa	7,700	80	1.4
Soviet Union	16,380	70-120	4.7-32.0
North and South America	22,500	140	29.1

It is seen from this that East Asia is also exceedingly wanting in petroleum, but petroleum and copper are two mineral products of which there is a world-wide shortage, and it is expected that there will be a continued increase in the present tendency for the former to be substituted by synthetic oil and animal and vegetable oils and the latter by aluminium and other metals. That being so, East Asia, rich in raw materials for these substitute articles, is not necessarily at a disadvantage in comparison with other regions. On the contrary, abounding in aluminous shale deposits and also raw materials for vegetable oils, East Asia has a promise of a bright future.

In addition to being favored with natural conditions necessary for the production of foodstuffs and raw materials, East Asia enjoys a unique advantage of terrain, in that its waters, surrounded by innumerable islands and islets, make one big inland sea, which affords communication facilities that cannot be hoped for elsewhere. This geographical advantage is highly conducive to the promotion of interchange not only in economy but in the fields of politics, defense and culture.

Fruits of Wisdom

The Delphic oracle said I was the wisest of all the Greeks. It is because that I alone, of all the Greeks, know that I know nothing.—Socrates.

* * *

I find that nonsense, at times, is singularly refreshing.—Talleyrand.